principles for recruitment to Public Service on a common basis, would have been beset with considerable difficulties. The rearrangement of the large number of different scales of pay into a much smaller number of groups has, however, removed these difficulties and it is hoped that with these facilities, the Public Service Commissioner will find it possible and easy to so adjust recruitment to Public Service as to give, as far as possible, equal chances to men with equal qualifications.

23. *Public Works.*—The allotment for ordinary Public Works expenditure in the next year including establishment charges and Tools and Plant is Rs. 36·46 lakhs as against the current year's budget grant of Rs. 32·48 lakhs. When the estimated expenditure on Capital works and the expenditure met out of the Irrigation and Road Development Funds and the Reproductive Works executed by the Electrical Department are also taken into account, the budget grant for the next year for works of public utility would amount to Rs. 95·70 lakhs. Full details of the works in progress and new works are given in the Appendix to the budget estimates. The allotment for the new works includes Rs. 2 lakhs for the construction of the Council Chamber and that under works in progress includes Rupees one lakh for works in connection with the Town Planning Scheme and Rs, 50,000 more for extensions and investigations of other Town Planning Schemes.

CAPITAL SCHEMES.

24. *Water Supply.* - The question of supplying good drinking water to all the important Municipal towns in the State, where there is scarcity of good water, has been engaging the anxious attention of Government for some time past. A water supply scheme for the Trivandrum town was taken up first. The first stage of the Scheme has practically been worked out, except the High Level Service Reservoir which is nearing completion. The Town Water Supply has been commenced and it was found to be of immense relief to the people during the unusual draught of this year. The preliminary works for starting the second stage of the Town distribution system are in hand and the working out of this stage and the lying out of the water works premises are proposed to be taken up next year.

25. The Municipalities of Nagercoil, Shencottah and Alleppey have also been urging the need for supplying good water. In view of the hardships to which the people in these three Municipal towns are put to for want of good water, it is proposed to extend the supply of protected water to these Municipal towns also. But having regard to considerations of economy and the resources of the Municipalities, the Water Supply Schemes for the three mofussil towns in question cannot obviously be on as liberal a scale as for the Capital town. The Scheme will be restricted to street supplies, that is to say, supply of water through public street taps alone, with no house connections at present. If the supply be restricted as above, an average per capita allowance of 7 to 15 gallons per diem is all that would be required. On this basis, the three schemes are expected to cost roughly Rs. 25 lakhs in all—Rs. 2 lakhs for Nagercoil, (Rs. 4½ lakhs for the low level include d)

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Rs. 2 lakhs for Shencottah and Rs. 10 lakhs for Alleppey. The investigation of the schemes would cost about Rs. 53,000, (Rs. 17,000 for Nagercoil, Rs. 16,000 for Shencottah and Rs. 20,000 for Alleppey). It proposed to take up the investigation simultaneously in all the three towns and the above provision of Rs 53,000 is for the necessary staff and other preliminary expenses. A sum of Rs. 2 lakhs is also provided for the works next year under capital expenditure so as to obtain at least a portion of the necessary pipes and fittings next year itself.

26. *Drainage.*—The investigation of the Trivandrum Drainage Scheme started in 1108 and continued during 1109 and 1110, has been completed. It is now proposed to work the scheme under Capital Expenditure not charged to Revenue. The Drainage Engineer who conducted the investigation has been asked to take up the design and prepare estimates for the scheme, assisted by an officer of considerable experience in Sanitary Engineering in the Madras Service. The main outlines of the Scheme are complete. The scheme when worked out would provide efficient underground drainage on up-to-date lines, to carry the sullage from houses and sewage when flush water-closet latrines are introduced. The sewage would be conveyed quickly, out of the town, to sewage treatment works, wherefrom, after treatment, the effluent which will have very little impurity, would be allowed to flow in to and get diluted by the natural drainage channel there. The scheme comprehends also such works as are necessary, to drain more satisfactorily than at present the lowlying parts of the town. Remedial measures to prevent such flooding as was experienced during the heavy rains in May 1933, and at the same time provide considerable room to develop housing sites in the main valleys of the town, at present water logged and swampy *viz.*, the Observatory and the Vanchiyoor valleys, form an important aspect of the scheme. The scheme will serve practically the whole of the Municipal town and also the military lines at Pangode. The town will be divided into three drainage areas of which the main one extends from the Kowdiyar Palace to Manakad, the Nanthancode and Pattam area comprising the second, and the land to west of the Pettah bridge forming the third. The scheme is designed to meet the requirements of the prospective population of 1971 A. D. The cost of the scheme is estimated at Rs 30 lakhs. The scheme has been designed as a comprehensive one for the whole area. It is proposed to work it out in such easy stages, that though the scheme would be completed only in four or five years, the work carried out from time to time would be such, as may be brought into immediate use. The programme of work for 1111 is the taking up of the sewering of Fort, Chalai, Puthen Street, etc., and the construction of the East Main sewer along Cochar, the main sewer in the Vanchiyoor valley along with the installation of the sewage pumping station in the Kuriyathi fields, south of the Chalai Bazaar.

As the question of drainage is closely allied to that of water supply, it is imperative that these two systems should be worked hand in hand. Since schemes for water works and drainage fall within the category of

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Specialist Services and in asmuch as the Chief Engineer P. W. D., is saddled with the direction and control of a large spending department with budgetted expenditure of nearly 40 lakhs of rupees per year on communications, buildings, irrigation etc., it is considered necessary in the interests of efficient and speedy execution of work to constitute the 'Public Health Engineering services' such as Water Works and Drainage into a separate Department of Government. The new department will be called the Water Works and Drainage Engineering Department. The Head of the Department will be designated Water Works and Drainage Engineer to Government and he will exercise administrative and financial powers in respect of these departments just like the Chief Engineer, P. W. D., who will hereafter be known as the Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation.

The sum of Rs 2,53,000 provided for water supply to mofussil Municipalities will, for the present, be met by the Government, the final debit being decided upon after a definite understanding is come to with the Municipalities as regards the portions chargeable to Municipal and General Revenues. Levy of rates to repay or reduce the debt is also being considered. Omitting this item, the Water Works and Drainage Schemes for Trivandrum are expected to cost Government next year about Rs 10·97 lakhs of which Rs 5·30 lakhs alone pertains to Drainage.

27. *The Town Planning Scheme.*— Under this scheme, the Avenue road from Kowdiyar to Vellayambalam, work on which was started in 1108 M. E., was completed towards the close of the current financial year. The road with its broad traffic way and side walks, its ornamental parapet walls and pylons, and its two spacious squares and the circle, is to be counted as one among the best town roads in Southern India. The expenditure booked to end of Idavom 1110 on the work is Rs 1·69 lakhs. A sum of Rs one lakh has also been provided in the budget for 1111 to meet the outstanding liabilities and to close accounts.

To regulate and control the construction of buildings by private agencies on this important thoroughfare, a subsidiary Town Planning Scheme has been formulated for the area on either side of this road. The area is to be pieced out into rectangular blocks of varying sizes suitable for dwelling houses. As under the scheme the lands of those who are not willing to conform to the Town Planning proposals have to be acquired and resold in auction, a sum of Rs 0·5 of a lakh has been provided in the budget for 1111 as advance to the Municipality for the temporary acquisition of these lands. The work on the reconstitution of the building sites will be commenced by the beginning of the next year.

Proposals for the improvement of the Main road from Vellayambalam square to the Mascot Hostel have been formulated and the work has been commenced. A sum of Rs ·4 of a lakh has been provided in the budget for this work.

Immediate improvement of the rest of the Main Road from the Cantonment Junction to the East Fort Gate is impracticable owing to

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the high compensation involved, and hence this portion of the Main Road is proposed to be improved by the method of set backs i. e., whenever a new building is proposed to be conrtructed it will be removed to the line of the proposed new alignment, so that in course of time the required land for the widening of the road will be clear of buildings.

The other important work proposed to be taken up during the course of the next year is the improvement of the Thampanur valley. This valley consisting of the low lying lands from the Trivandrum Central Station to the Observatory Hill is mostly inhabited by the poor class of people living under insanitary conditions. Numerous representations have been received from the inhabitants of this area praying for the opening up of this valley for proper habitation. A suitable town planning scheme in respect of this area has been framed. The proposals include the construction of a broad central road more or less straight in alignment, from the Railway Station to the foot of the Observatory Hill, and a loop road round the Observatory Hill to connect it to the Main Road, and also the location of public parks, play grounds and swimming baths at convenient places. The working out of this scheme will make available an extent of over 300 acres of land in the very heart of the town for healthy habitation. The lands will be acquired by Government in the first instance and sold for house sites. The cost of roads, public parks etc., will alone be finally debited to Government while the recoveries on account of sale of house sites will be credited to the Advance head. For this work a sum of Rs 5 lakhs has been provided in the ensuing year's budget under Advances.

The investigation for the improvement of the other parts of the town is in progress, and a sum of Rs ·10 of a lakh has been provided in the budget for its continuance. The provision for next year under the Town Planning Scheme will thus be Rs 7 lakhs distributed under the following heads :

Thampanur valley Rs 5 lakhs, house sites on both sides of the Avenue Road from Kowdiyar to Vellayambalam Rs ·50 of a lakh. Both of which are provided for under Advances, and Rs 1·50 lakhs charged to Revenue.

COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

28. *Rubber Factory.*—Last year, it was stated that the opening of a Government Rubber Factory at Chackai, Trivandrum, was then in contemplation. The preliminary investigations were conducted by Mr. Helen of Lakshmi Rubber Mills, Karachi, who has since been appointed as Engineer and Rubber Expert. The Factory buildings have been completed and the machinery required, purchased and erected. The factory is likely to commence work in a couple of weeks. The House will be interested to be informed in this connection that the machinery required for the factory was purchased on compensation basis Travancore coir yarns and other articles, being exchanged to the extent of the value of the machinery ordered.

The capital outlay on the Rubber Factory at the end of the current year is expected to amount to Rs 3·77 lakhs. As the factory will

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